

March 15, 1973

(Start of Belt #5)

Gordon Simmons, and they are all in the North Balcony and we also want to welcome, the 4th Grade from St. John's Lutheran School of Seward Nebraska. That's out in Senator Epke's district and their instructor is Lucinda Bartels, and they like wise are seated in the North Balcony and we're delighted to have them here today as spectators to the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature. We hope that, yes lets give them a hand. We are discussing Legislative Resolution #9, which is the rather famous Equal Rights Amendment and I think before we continue with the debate on this, that the Chair should give you some observations. Share with you some of the things that we have done. First off, the motion of course has been, a motion has been made, that the rules be suspended in order to clarify any possible cloud that might arise regarding the consideration of Legislative Resolution #9. After that vote is taken to suspend the rules, then the Chair is going to rule and it has been verified and other consultations have been held that it will take 25 votes in order to adopt Legislative Resolution #9. Now, the Attorney Generals opinion like wise has been reviewed regarding a previous skirmish of course on one of these resolutions and so you will know that we have given due consideration to all the legal points at least that we think have to be countered at this time, or that could cloud the activities regarding this particular resolution. We also additionally, I think you will remember, we have voted to close debate on the issue and that has been determined. So we have before us at this time then, a motion to suspend the rules which would relate to the way in which we treat Legislative Resolution #9. So I'm asking you to vote on that issue at this time, because this helps us to clarify the procedure so that there will not be any doubt as to how we proceed under the rules that I have tried to verbalize to you at this time. Now Senator Kelly, your light is still on and I don't know for what reason you would like to be recognized.

KELLY: A point of personal privilege.

SPEAKER: State your point Senator.

KELLY: I believe that the leadership and the Chair and the Legislature should be severely criticized, for this suspension of the rules and taking up LR-9 which is a very important basic change in the way this Government's going to operate. I realize that we're going to be doing it all very legally, but I do criticize it strongly.

SPEAKER: Thank-you Senator Kelly. Senator Proud.

PROUD: Well if he's got a right to a rise on a point of personal privilege, so have I. The point is, that we all understand what this is all about. The resolution is either going to get 25 votes or it isn't and it's as simple as that and if the rules aren't suspended, then I'll just move to advance it and freezes the Bill.

SPEAKER: Senator Chambers, for what purpose do you rise?

CHAMBERS: Mr. President, just one point. We've agreed that debate is shut off. The rules say that on a point of personal privilege there is to be no discussion of what's before the House, so I'm going to request that that rule be enforced, if an attempt is made to do it again this morning.

SPEAKER: Thank-you. Senator Carpenter.

CARPENTER: Well let me say a word to Senator Kelly. He seems to be getting in the frame of mind that because we don't act